



# Red Tail Flyer

Volume 3, Issue 5

www.afnews.af.mil/internal/papers/Balad.pdf

February 4, 2005

## Hospital occasionally needs blood

Senior Airman Colleen Wronek

*332nd AEW Public Affairs*

Occasionally the Air Force Theater Hospital needs a servicemember's blood to save another person's life.

"Blood drives are held when we have a patient who is bleeding profusely and they need platelets," said Capt. Jessica Hughes, 332nd Expeditionary Medical Support Squadron laboratory services flight commander. "During a blood drive we collect whole blood which includes platelets. Platelets are cells vital in controlling bleeding."

When a doctor needs platelets for a patient, the Medical Control Center will e-mail a request for donors with the blood type needed. The e-mail goes out to all units on Base.

During these blood drives, all ranks and services can give blood. Donors must be healthy, weigh at least 110 pounds and not have donated blood in the last 56 days (eight weeks).

"Healthy means you feel well and can perform your normal duties," Captain Hughes, who is from Offutt AFB, Neb. said. "There are many reasons for deferral so when you come to donate you will be screened."

Some of the more common reasons for deferral are:

**Aspirin** – Donors must not have taken aspirin or any medication containing aspirin in the last 72 hours.



Air Force/Senior Airman Colleen Wronek

**1st Lt Monika Gonzalez, 332nd Expeditionary Medical Support Squadron laboratory services chief from Lackland AFB, Texas, draws blood from Army Specialist Kimberly Summers, 74th Quarter Master Company, Kansas Army National Guard. The Air Force Theater Hospital conducts blood drives when large amounts of platelets are needed.**

**Smallpox vaccination** – Donors must wait until the scab has separated from the skin or 21 days after date of vaccination, which ever is longer.

**Malaria** – Donors must wait three-years after completing treatment for Malaria and must wait 12 months after returning from a six-month or less trip to an area where malaria is found.

Also, donors must wait three-years after returning from a six-month or longer trip in a country where malaria is found.

**European Country deferral** – Indefinite deferral for anyone who resided in or traveled to the

United Kingdom for a cumulative period of three months or more, or to Europe for a cumulative period of six months or more from 1980 through 1996 and anyone who spent a cumulative five years or more in Europe since 1980.

If the donor lived in the UK after 1997, there is no deferral unless they received a blood transfusion.

**Miscellaneous** – Donors must wait 12 months after body piercing, tattooing, acupuncture, or after treatment of a sexually transmitted disease.

"All potential donors will be

screened for these and other less common indications during the donation process," Captain Hughes said.

Balad's red blood cells and plasma come from the United States and are shipped into the theater.

"When we do blood drives, the blood we collect is guaranteed to be given to a patient," Captain Hughes said. "Without your blood, the patient probably wouldn't survive."

For more information, e-mail Captain Hughes at [jessica.hughes@blab.centaf.af.mil](mailto:jessica.hughes@blab.centaf.af.mil).

# Airmen making a difference

## PAAC offers opportunity to improve deployed environment

Senior Airman Colleen Wronek  
332nd AEW Public Affairs

Airmen wanting to leave a legacy here at Balad have a chance to do so with the Panther's Airman Advisory Council.

"The PAAC is here for Airmen," said Airman 1st Class Timothy Stanford, 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing chapel assistant and PAAC president. "Our goals are to boost morale, build camaraderie and to have an impact on this rotation and other rotations to come."

The PAAC, which meets at 5 p.m. Wednesdays at the H-6 Chapel, has been around for three rotations

"I joined the PAAC to make a difference. I saw an opportunity to let people know I'm doing something here and not counting the days down," said Airman 1st Class Joshua Jowers, 332nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron and PAAC vice president. "I do count the days down, but not in grief, but what I can accomplish in the little time I have left."

Improvements start with Airmen wanting change and then other ranks and organizations help out, Airman Stanford, who is from Whiteman AFB, Mo., said. If Airmen are going to be here



Air Force/Senior Airman Colleen Wronek

**Airman 1st Class Timothy Stanford, Panther's Airman Advisory Council president, goes over PAAC key issues during a weekly meeting. The PAAC's goal is to improve Balad's quality of life. They meet at 5 p.m. Wednesdays in the H-6 Chapel. All Airmen are welcome to attend.**

# PAAC

for four months, they might as well make their time worthwhile.

"We meet other Airmen that we wouldn't meet,"

Airman Jowers, who is from Barksdale AFB, La., said. "Together we do something that has a direct impact on Balad."

When the PAAC meets, important issues are addressed such as dorm cohabitation, proper wear of PT gear and what to do to raise morale.

"We plan on having movie nights at the town hall, video game tournaments, and sports tournaments," Airman

Stanford said. "Also, we are planning on a FOD

wash fundraiser, where PAAC members at flight line entry control points wash vehicles entering the flight line."

The PAAC is also assisting services and the CGO council with a super bowl party at 2 a.m. Monday in the recreation tent.

"We want airmen to look back at their tour and say 'this is what I did in Iraq,'" Airman Jowers said. "We want them to go out and say 'I made a difference and I helped make this place better than it was.'"

There are a few challenges to having an advisory council in a deployed environment. "Work schedules dictate how much Airmen are involved," Airman Stanford said. "A lot of people are unmotivated after working 12 hours and think if I'm only here for four months why should I help improve morale and quality of life."

"We want Airmen to know they are welcome here," Airman Jowers said. "Meetings are to the point and worthwhile. If we can make a difference with 10 people think how much we can do with 100 people."





# Safety office wants to know concerns

By Tech Sgt. William Rathbun

332nd AEW Safety Office

Prevention of injuries requires a good communication system. Part of this communication system includes a review of accidents and findings to prevent them from happening again.

A critical part of communication is the reporting and correction of hazards, unsafe acts, accidents, close calls and unsafe conditions.

Accidents don't just happen without reason. They are caused by unsafe working conditions and unsafe actions. Both can be observed and corrected.

Observing and reporting unsafe conditions and activities is everyone's responsibility. Hazards and their outcomes potentially affect everyone, and since safety inspectors can't be everywhere, everyone must become a safety inspector.

Anyone can come up with solutions to

safety problems. Often the best answers are the simple, straightforward kind, which are created by those involved.

Hazardous conditions or acts should be communicated to the safety supervisor, immediate supervisor or discussed at regular safety meetings.

Everyone should watch for the following safety hazards:

- A work area which is cluttered and dirty due to poor housekeeping practices.
- Improper lifting, moving and storage of materials.
- Failure to use personal protective equipment required for the job, such as safety eyewear, footwear, gloves, a hardhat, or fall protection gear.
- Careless use and storage of chemicals and flammable liquids.
- Failure to protect against moving machinery, using machine guards and lock-out procedures.

■ Makeshift repairs on equipment such as electrical tools.

■ Horseplay and practical jokes which endanger co-workers.

■ Eyewash stations not properly checked or clear for usage.

■ Blocked emergency exits and fire extinguishers.

■ Poor security arrangements.

Prevention of accidents, injuries and close calls are required to be reported and corrected, even if they appear trivial.

Reporting shouldn't be done in a way that places blame on people involved. The focus of the report should be on getting care for the injured person, determining how to correct the issue and to prevent the problem from happening again.

To report a safety hazard, call the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing Safety office at 443-6023.

## Balad Airmen promoted

The following Airmen have been or will be promoted during February:

### Promoted to Airman 1st Class

- James Argo, 332nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron
- Elizabeth Schwaninger, 332nd Expeditionary Medical Group

### Promoted to Senior Airman

- Richard Anderson, 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron
- Charles Austin, 332nd Expeditionary Air Control Squadron
- David Beasley, 332nd EACS
- Terry Burner, Task Force 1041
- Reginald Cook, 332nd EACS
- Katie Elbert, Task Force 1041
- Tyler Farley, 46th Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron
- Amy Henry, 332nd EACS
- William Jones, Task Force 1041
- Michael Magallanes, 332nd ESFS
- William Marcantel, 332nd EACS
- Andrew Murray, 332nd ECES
- Phillip Norton, 332nd Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron
- Wan Rodriguez, Task Force 1041
- Jonathan Rojas, 332nd Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron
- Rietta Sydnor, 332nd EACS

### Promoted to Staff Sgt.

- Nick Adams, 332nd ESFS

- Anthony Aguilar, 332nd EACS
- Andrew Bulman, Task Force 1041
- Jonathan Emery, 332nd ESFS
- Jacob Getzelman, 332nd EACS
- Ernesto Hernandez, 332nd ESFS
- Jordan McIntyre, Task Force 1041
- Lucinda Miranda, 332nd ECES
- Matthew Perry, 332nd Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
- Amber Porphy, Task Force 1041
- Lonnie Quick, Detachment 5
- Jeffrey Szasz, 332nd EMDG
- Leslie Walters, 332nd Expeditionary Services Squadron

### Promoted to Tech. Sgt.

- David Abell, 332nd ELRS
- Rafael Ortega, 332nd ELRS
- Scott Pearson, 332nd EAMXS
- Kathleen Salvione, 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing
- David Sewell, 332nd EACS
- Gregory Temple, 332nd EAMXS

### Promoted to Master Sgt.

- Kyle Baker, 332nd EACS
- Gary Collar, 332nd EAMXS
- James Deen, 332nd ECES
- John Herold, 332nd EACS
- William Nelson, 332nd EAMXS

### Promoted to Senior Master Sgt.

- Daniel Prater, 332nd Expeditionary Communications Squadron

## January awards

The following is a list of January award winners:

**Senior NCO** – Master Sgt. Thomas Ewing, 332nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron anti-terrorism/force protection NCOIC.

**NCO** – Tech. Sgt. Christopher Erickson, 732nd Expeditionary Mission Support Group supply and maintenance NCOIC.

**Airman** – Senior Airman William Adams, 332nd Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron air traffic controller.

**Honor Guard** – Airman 1st Class Benjeem Sampson, 732nd Expeditionary Mission Support Group Det. 2632.

**Saber Team Award** – Joint Service Up-Armor Assembly Team, 732nd Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron Det. 2632.

# Tuskegee heritage lives through 332nd AEW

Master Sgt. Daniel Deforest

332nd AEW historian

Today's 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing shares the heritage of World War II's 332nd Fighter Group, more popularly known as the Tuskegee Airmen.

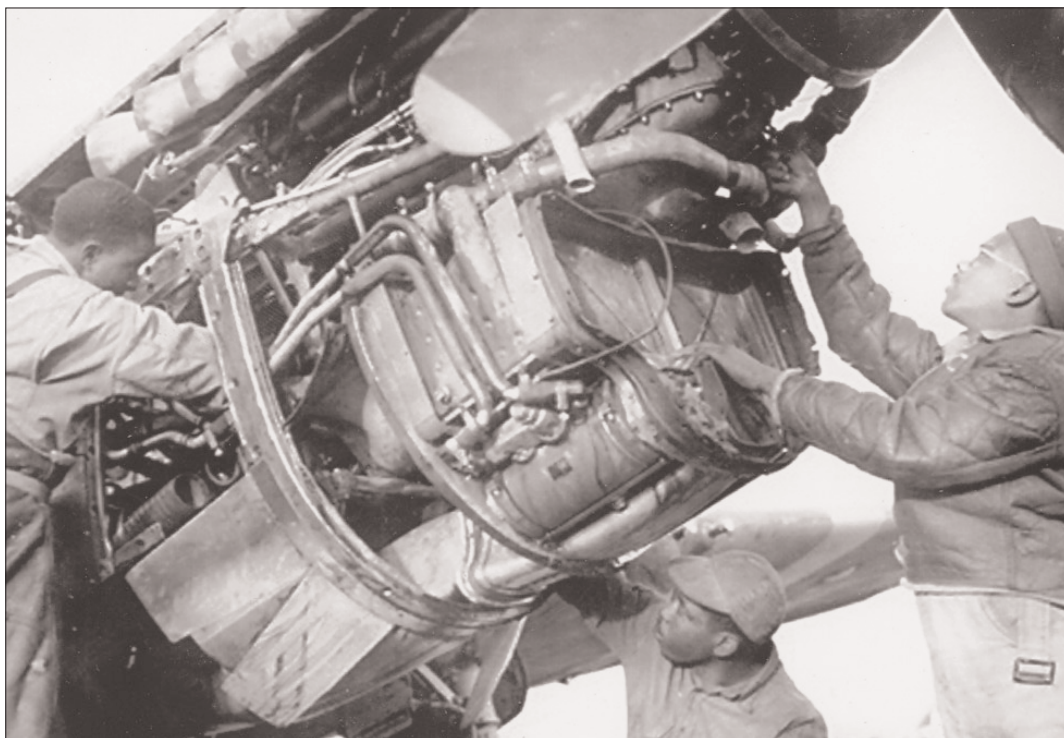
The brave men, who later fought together in Europe, first had to fight the racial status quo in the United States. The status quo put all African Americans in segregated units and banned them from aircrew duties altogether.

Since the Army Air Corps had no black units, it rejected all black candidates. When Congress drafted a law requiring the service to allow blacks in their ranks, they formed a few units with the designation of "Aviation Squadron (Separate)."

But, in spite of their title, the men in these units were used for labor and had no flying-related duties. Even qualified applicants who received pilot training at black colleges were rejected, despite the urgent need for pilots as the country built up its defenses in response to world events.

Under pressure from several groups and fearful of losing political support in the South, President Franklin Roosevelt finally ordered the Army to create an all black flying unit in 1940, but at the same time, reaffirmed the administration's policy of segregation of the armed forces, according to "Red Tails, Black Wings" by John B Holloway.

By the end of the year, the Air Corps developed a plan for an all-black pursuit squadron, along with maintenance, weather, services and administrative support elements.



Courtesy photo

**Members of the 332nd Fighter Group repair an aircraft engine in the early 1940's. The fighter group was not only the first with African-Americans, but they also never lost a single bomber to enemy fire during WWII.**

To implement the plan, however, they needed to find a place to train the pilots, maintainers and support people.

Chanute Army Airfield was chosen as a segregated training base for the support elements, and the Tuskegee Institute was chosen from several locations to conduct pilot and maintenance training.

The Institute, a respected all-black college near Montgomery, Alabama, was a logical choice, as it already had a pilot training program in place, and the weather allowed year-round flying. The Institute actually had several qualified pilots who had completed or would shortly complete pilot training, nearly all of whom joined the new unit, the 99th Pursuit Squadron.

The 99th was officially activated March 22, 1941, and after enough pilots had completed

training, shipped out to North Africa, arriving in April 1943.

They flew missions in support of the Allied advance across North Africa with P-40 Warhawks, joining the advance through Sicily and up the Italian peninsula after the Allies invaded that country in July 1943.

The squadron's first commander, Lt. Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., was quickly promoted from his peacetime rank of Captain.

When the program at Tuskegee produced enough pilots to form a group, the 332nd Fighter Group formed and entered combat in Italy in 1944.

The 99th joined the group later that year, giving the 332nd its full complement of four fighter squadrons, the 99th, 100th, 301st and 302nd. Davis, by now a full Colonel, became

the group commander.

After the integration of the 99th, the 332nd Fighter Group began escorting bomber formations from Italy to targets all over Europe, proving once and for all that blacks are capable of flying in combat and earning its unique reputation as the only fighter group in the war that didn't lose any bombers to enemy fighter aircraft.

This is just a short synopsis of the Tuskegee Airmen story and the history of the 332nd.

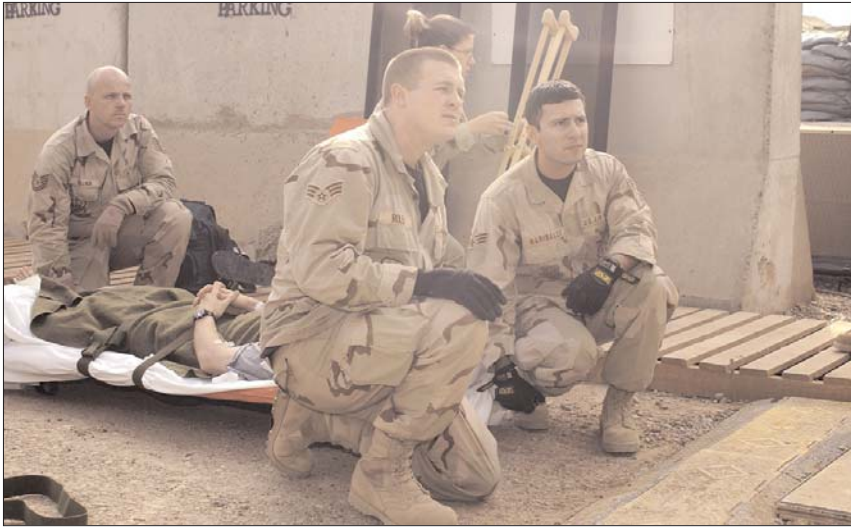
There are many more Tuskegee Airmen stories to be told and the story of the 332nd doesn't end with WWII.

To learn more, visit the following sites:

<http://www.wpafb.af.mil/museum/history/prewwii/ta.htm>  
<http://tuskegeearmen.org/>  
<http://www.nps.gov/tuai/>



# CASF volunteers



Air Force/Staff Sgt. Neal Joiner

Contingency Aeromedical Staging Facility volunteers prepare to lift a patient into a bus. The CASF is always in need of volunteers to lift litters, talk to patients and help transport patients to the flightline.



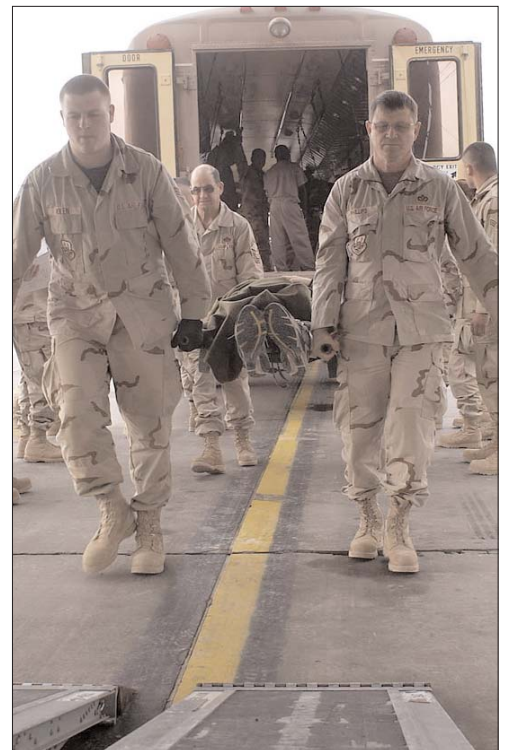
Air Force/Staff Sgt. Neal Joiner

Senior Airman Randolph Johnson, 332nd CASF control center, loads patient luggage onto a bus. The CASF needs volunteers 24/7, but mostly at night due to Air Evacuation missions usually happening after nightfall



Air Force/Staff Sgt. Neal Joiner

CASF volunteers carefully carry a patient on board an aircraft. The CASF's mission is to accomplish patient care and movement out of the Area of Responsibility.



Air Force/Master Sgt. Thomas Wood

Senior Airman Phillip Rolen, 332nd CASF, and Master Sgt. Rickey Phillips, 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron, move patients requiring further medical treatment onto an aircraft leaving the AOR. People interested in volunteering at the CASF should call 443-7418.

# Ultimate sacrifice leaves mark on those behind

Lt. Col. Carleton Hirschel

332nd Expeditionary Services Squadron commander

The e-mail read: "PATRIOT DETAIL, ALL MEMBERS THAT WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CORDON MUST REPORT TO THE FRONT OF THE PAX TERMINAL AT 2040L 21 JAN. VOLUNTEERS WILL MARCH OUT TO THE DESIGNATED AIRCRAFT AND FORM A CORDON. PROPER HONORS WILL BE GIVEN THEN MEMBERS DISMISSED."

The e-mail didn't say anything about anyone dying or funerals, but the message couldn't have been clearer. A fellow military member had died in a combat zone far away from his family and we needed to get him home.

On the way home he would be given the privileges of a hero and a patriot who had lived up to the code of conduct and given his life in support of his country.

I read the e-mail and knew it was something I needed to do. I left work and went home to take a shower, put on my best boots and my nicest DCU uniform. I had time to do those things. Many people did not and came straight from work.

We all had a desire to do the right thing.

While we were waiting, someone from PERSCO came out and informed us the plane hadn't taken off yet so it would be a while and we could wait next door or come back in an hour and a half.

When we came back, more people had showed up and the cordon became large.

We waited about forty five minutes. It seemed like every flare we saw or plane that landed might be the one. Finally, we saw a flare and spotted a C-130 taxiing

from the end of the runway.

The first sergeant gathered us around and briefed us. He said form two columns and taller tap, lines should be separate and the width of a C-130 cargo door.

He told us we would step out to the back of the plane, face center and go to parade rest.

Then he said before the transfer case could move down the cordon everyone must come to attention, present arms at a slow 3-second pace and hold it till the transfer case was aboard the aircraft.

After the transfer

case was aboard, he said lower your salute again at the 3 second pace.

He then told us there were two transfer cases so we would repeat the procedure twice.

In front of the Pax terminal, we formed up into our columns, taller tapped and waited. People talked quietly and looked around. It was cold, the moon had a ring around it and the fog seemed to be everywhere.

Finally, it was time. Everyone took a deep, calming breath and headed out in formation. The walk was short and we formed the cordon at the back of the plane. The commands were given and everyone followed the commands to dress right, face center and go to parade rest.

During the detail, we all remembered we're professionals and we needed to retain our composure.

But everyone's eyes were focused on the ground or someplace out in space. Nobody looked at each other.

Some people closed their eyes to hold back tears. For others, it didn't work and tears came streaming down their cheeks.

The wind was cold on my back and my hands were freezing.

Everyone was cold, but nobody moved. This detail was too important.

Finally, the transfer cases arrived and the cordon was called to attention. The command "Present Arms" was given and very slowly in perfect synchronization everyone raised

their right arm in salute.

This group of military professionals from colonels to airmen was never assembled before, but everything was done flawlessly.

After the loading was completed I went into the back of the plane for a small remembrance ceremony.

Everyone was briefed they weren't obligated to participate in a religious ceremony, but everyone participated.

The detail is a way to say goodbye to someone you've never met that changed your life.

I thought about the military who I joined and the people I work with. I'm glad that it's not me or a friend that the cordon is for, but I am honored that I was able to participate in this very solemn event for someone else.

**"I'm glad it's not me or a friend that the cordon is for, but I am honored that I was able to participate in this very solemn event for someone else."**

Lt. Col. Carleton Hirschel  
332nd ESVS commander

## Got a story?

Know someone in your unit who has a unique story/hobby, or are you interested in writing a story?

Call The Red Tail Flyer at 458-1064 or e-mail:

[redtailflyer@blab.af.mil](mailto:redtailflyer@blab.af.mil)







## PUBLIC HEALTH NOTE

### Rabies Prevention

General Order 1A, states "Adopting pets, mascots, caring for, or feeding any type of domestic or wild animal is prohibited."

Recently a stray dog was adopted at a neighboring base in Iraq. The dog was placed in quarantine and died one day later. The remains were submitted for rabies testing and the results were positive for the virus.

All 32 people exposed to the stray dog were required to receive Rabies post exposure prophylaxis.

Rabies is a very serious viral disease that affects the central nervous system of warm blooded animals and humans. Rabies is almost always fatal without proper medical intervention.

The virus is usually transmitted through the bite of an infected animal, but it can also be transmitted through a scratch if saliva is introduced into a wound.

If bitten or scratched, wash the wound immediately with soap and water for at least 10 minutes, get a good description of the animal and its last known location, seek medical attention immediately and follow up as instructed by your medical provider.

The most effective method of preventing rabies is to avoid all stray and wild animals and reduce and contain trash in areas that would attract animals.

Not all animals carrying rabies appear sick. They may carry the virus for days before showing signs of illness.

If you have any questions or concerns, call the Public Health office at 443-7304.

### Meet your neighbor



**Staff Sgt. Carma McCall**

Home station: Pope AFB, NC.

Unit: 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing administrative office

Hobbies: reading, cooking, singing and just enjoying life

How do you contribute to the mission? I help process decorations for all Air Force personnel in Iraq and I provide administrative workgroup manager assistance to wing personnel.

Besides your family, what do you miss back home?

I miss home cooked meals, eight-hour shifts and my bathroom.

**After a long shift, don't come home to this.**



**Avoid a fire. Don't overload outlets and extension cords.**

## Air Force Religious Schedule

### Protestant

#### Sundays:

9 a.m. • Traditional – Hospital

11 a.m. • Contemporary

Worship –

H-6 Chapel

5:30 p.m. • Inspirational

Worship –

H-6 Chapel

### Roman Catholic

#### Daily:

When Catholic Chaplain is

available, Mass • 7:30 p.m. –

H-6 Chapel

Confessions – Offered prior to

Daily Mass

#### Saturdays:

7:30 p.m. • Mass – H-6 Chapel

#### Sundays:

9 a.m. • Mass – H-6 Chapel

2 p.m. • Mass – CJSOTF

Chapel

3:30 p.m. • Mass – JSOAP-AP

Chapel

### Latter Day Saints

#### Sundays:

7 p.m. • Sacraments – H-6

Chapel

8 p.m. • Sunday School – H-6  
Chapel

### Fellowship and Study

#### Daily:

8:30 p.m. • Band of Brothers

Fellowship – H-6 Chapel

9 p.m. • Band of Brothers

Prayer – H-6 Chapel

#### Sundays:

2 p.m. • Protestant Bible Study

– Hospital

#### Tuesdays:

7:30 p.m. • Purpose Driven

Life – Chapel Fellowship

Room

#### Thursdays:

7 p.m. • Latter Day Saints

Study Group – Chapel

Fellowship Room

#### Fridays:

7:30 p.m. • Women's Bible

Study – Hospital

## Know what this is?



Air Force/Staff Sgt. Lindsey Maurice

If you can identify the object, send us an e-mail at [redtailflyer@blab.centaf.af.mil](mailto:redtailflyer@blab.centaf.af.mil). The first person with the correct answer wins a \$5 gift certificate courtesy of the Army and Air Force Exchange Service. Last week's photo of a screw driver handle went unidentified so an additional \$5 gift certificate will be awarded for this week's correct answer.



# Sustainer Movie Schedule

Schedule is subject to change



Today, Feb. 4  
3 p.m. - Are We There Yet  
6 p.m. - Woman Thou Art Loosed  
9 p.m. - Are We There Yet

Saturday, Feb. 5  
3 p.m. - Woman Thou Art Loosed  
6 p.m. - Are We There Yet  
9 p.m. - Are We There Yet

Sunday, Feb. 6  
3 p.m. - Woman Thou Art Loosed  
6 p.m. - After the Sunset  
9 p.m. - Seed of Chucky

Monday, Feb. 7  
3 p.m. - Team America

6 p.m. - Are We There Yet  
9 p.m. - National Treasure  
Tuesday, Feb. 8  
3 p.m. - Bridget Jones  
6 p.m. - Ray  
9 p.m. - Woman Thou Art Loosed  
Wednesday, Feb. 9  
3 p.m. - Alien vs. Predator  
6 p.m. - The Bourne Supremacy  
9 p.m. - Flight of the Phoenix  
Thursday, Feb. 10  
3 p.m. - Ladder 49  
6 p.m. - Are We There Yet  
9 p.m. - Woman Thou Art Loosed



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Red Tail Flyer Editor

The *Red Tail Flyer* is published by the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs Office.

This unfunded Air Force newsletter is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military overseas.

Contents of the *Red Tail Flyer* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

Editorial content is prepared, edited and provided

by the public affairs staff of the 332nd AEW at Balad Air Base, Iraq. The public affairs office can be contacted at 443-6005, or by e-mail at: [redtailflyer@blab.centaf.af.mil](mailto:redtailflyer@blab.centaf.af.mil) or [332aew.pa@blab.centaf.af.mil](mailto:332aew.pa@blab.centaf.af.mil).

All photos are Air Force photos, unless otherwise indicated.

The deadline for all editorial submissions is 5 p.m. the Tuesday prior to the date of publication.